

## Mission Statement

The Norwood Public School District is dedicated to educational excellence. In partnership with the family, staff and community, our mission is to meet the educational needs of each child by providing the programs and environment necessary to:

- enable every child to reach full potential;
- promote self-esteem, respect, responsibility and appreciation of diversity; develop knowledge, skills and academic achievement consistent with the New Jersey State Core Content Curriculum Standards;
- prepare each child for continued education and responsible citizenship;
- instill a life-long passion for learning.

## District Goals

1. **Appraise, and adjust where necessary practices that impact pupil learning and progress** such as technology, grouping, curriculum compacting, individualization of instruction, class size, gifted and talented programs, and assistance for underachievers.
2. **To continually seek additional ways to be financially and fiscally responsive.**
  - Investigate income-producing and revenue-saving programs.
  - Maintain, wherever possible, shared services with the municipality.
  - Continue to utilize existing facilities to meet special education needs wherever possible.
  - Investigate ways to increase regional collaboration on financial issues/projects.
3. **To plan open, ongoing and effective communications among all members of the school community:**
  - Develop and maintain a comprehensive plan to increase public awareness of all aspects of our school.
  - Continue an ongoing community-wide communications network.
  - Promote support for public education.

## ONGOING DISTRICT INITIATIVES

- ❖ **Implementing the New Jersey State Core Curriculum Content Standards:**
  - Ensure that the curriculum is current, relevant and dedicated to authentic learning.
  - Prioritize writing, research, problem-solving, inquiry, conflict resolution and organizational skills.
  - Enhance student academic and social preparation for high school.
  - Expand the learning process through the use of technology.
  - Continue to instill an appreciation of the arts.
  - Provide ongoing review of varied assessments of student performance.
- ❖ **Supporting the New Jersey State Professional Standards:**
  - Continue to assess and respond to staff members' professional growth needs.
  - Maximize staff members' performance through ongoing staff development and evaluation.
  - Assure that staff has the skills necessary to meet the needs of various ability groups and the ever increasing impact of technology.
  - Ensure that the evaluation process is effective and motivating.
- ❖ Providing a school facility that is safe, clean, inviting, well maintained and educationally effective.
- ❖ Continuing board development and training.

## GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- ❖ We will continually review all areas of our operation for financial efficiency.
- ❖ We will develop and administer a financially sound budget.
- ❖ We will negotiate labor contracts that support our district's mission and goals.